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IN THE CLAIMS

Please Cancel Claims 2-7, 9-10, 13, 16-18, 21-26, 28-29, enter the indicated Amendments to Claims 1, 8, 11-12, 14-15, 19-20 and 27, and enter New Claims 31-45, and Allow the resulting Claims. It is believed no additional Fees are due to add the New Claims in view of the Claim Cancelations.

1. (currently amended): A chain saw comprising a housing, a chain comprised of links which include chain link mating elements and cutters, and an elongated support extending outward from inside said housing; in the outer surface of said elongated support there being present a continuous chain channel guide into which said chain link mating elements are slideably inserted, such that during normal operation said chain link mating elements slide essentially freely through said continuous chain channel guide when forced to do so, said elongated support being slit in a longitudinal direction, such that upper and lower portions above and below the longitudinal slit can be separated from one another at least at one location along the longitudinal extent thereof, said longitudinal slit enabling separation of the upper and lower portions of said elongated support, and thereby causing tensioning of said chain;

said chain saw further comprising control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support.

2. (canceled):

3. (canceled):

4. (canceled):

5. (canceled):

6. (canceled):

7. (canceled):

8. (presently amended): A chain saw comprising a housing and an elongated support extending outward from inside said housing, said elongated support having a longitudinally oriented slit therein, said longitudinal slit enabling upper and lower portions above and below said longitudinal slit to be separated from one another at least at one location along the longitudinal extent thereof;

said chain saw further comprising means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support.

9. (canceled):

10. (canceled):

11. (currently amended): A chain saw comprising a housing, a chain comprised of links which include chain link mating elements and cutters, and an elongated support extending outward from inside said housing, in the outer surface of said elongated support there being present a continuous chain channel guide into which said chain link mating elements are slideably inserted, such that during normal operation said chain link mating elements slide essentially freely through said continuous chain channel guide when forced to do so, said continuous chain channel guide having a lateral slit present therein which allows effecting an offset of said continuous chain channel guide thereacross said

offset serving to impede the slideability of said chain link mating elements across said lateral slit;

the-improvement-being-that said elongated support is being slit in a longitudinal direction such that upper and lower portions above and below the longitudinal slit can be separated from one another, said longitudinal slit enabling separation of the upper and lower portions of said elongated support at least at one location along the longitudinal extent thereof, and thereby causing tensioning tensioning of said chain;

said chain saw further comprising control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support.

12. (previously presented): A chain saw as in Claim 11, in which said continuous chain channel guide is caused-to-be in an offset position, from one side of said lateral slit to the other, unless-a-user-causes-it-to-be-aligned-by-operation-of-an-a-continuous-chain-channel-guide-alignment-means,-thereby-providing-a-chain-saw-which-impedes-the-slideability-of-chain-link-mating-elements-across-said-lateral-slit-until-desired-by-a-user.

13. (canceled):

14. (previously presented): A chain saw as in Claim 11, which further comprises a second lateral slit in said continuous chain channel guide which allows effecting an offset of said continuous chain channel guide thereacross from-one-side-of-said-second-lateral-slit-to-the-other.

15. (previously presented): A chain saw as in Claim 14, in which said continuous chain channel guide is caused-to-be in an offset position across said second lateral slit,-from-one-side-of-said-second-lateral-slit-to-the-other,-unless-a-user-causes-it-to-be-aligned-by-operation-of-an-a-second-continuous-chain-channel-guide-alignment-means,-thereby-providing-a-chain-saw-which-impedes-the-slideability-of-chain-link-mating-elements-across-said-lateral-slit-until-desired-by-a-user.

16. (canceled):

17. (canceled):

18. (canceled):

19. (presently amended): A chain saw comprising a housing, a chain comprised of links which include chain link mating elements and cutters, and an elongated support extending outward from inside said housing; in the outer surface of said elongated support there being present a continuous chain channel guide into which said chain link mating elements slideably-insert are slidably inserted, such that during normal operation said chain link mating elements slide essentially freely through said continuous chain channel guide when forced to do so, said continuous chain channel guide having means present-therein-which allows for impeding the slideability of a said chain saw chain in said continuous chain channel guide;

the-improvement-being-that said elongated support is being slit in a longitudinal direction, such that upper and lower portions above and below the longitudinal slit can be separated from one another, said longitudinal slit enabling separation of the upper and lower portions of said elongated support at least at one location along the longitudinal extent thereof, and thereby

causing tensioning of said chain;

said chain saw further comprising control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support.

20. (original): A chain saw as in Claim 19 wherein said means which allows effecting an impeded chain channel guide comprises at least one lateral slit laterally thereacross.

21. (canceled):

22. (canceled):

23. (canceled):

24. (canceled):

25. (canceled):

26. (canceled):

27. (presently amended): A chain saw comprising a housing, a chain comprised of links which include chain link mating elements and cutters, and an elongated support extending outward from inside said housing, in the outer surface of said elongated support there being present a continuous chain channel guide into which said chain link mating elements are slideably inserted, such that during normal operation said chain link mating elements slide essentially freely through said continuous chain channel guide when forced to do so, said continuous chain channel guide having a lateral slit present therein which can be caused to effect an offset of said continuous chain channel guide thereacross;

said elongated support being slit in a longitudinal direction such that upper and lower portions above and below the longitudinal slit can be separated from one another at least at one location along the longitudinal extent thereof, said longitudinal slit enabling separation of the upper and lower portions of said elongated support, and thereby causing tensioning of said chain;

said chain saw further comprising control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said control means being a selection from the group consisting of:

a control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprising a fixed element on one of said upper and lower portions of said elongated support and a rotatable element rotatable affixed to the other of said upper and lower portions, said fixed and rotatable elements being functionally positioned with respect to one another such that interaction between said fixed and rotatable elements caused by rotating said rotatable element causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit; and

a control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprising a moveable element placed between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said moveable element being functionally positioned with respect to said upper and lower portions such that motion thereof causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support to change position with respect to one another at least one location across said

longitudinal slit;

said longitudinal slit comprising an effective projection on one of said upper and lower portions of the elongated support and an effective groove present in the other, said effective projection and effective groove being functionally oriented with respect to one another such that said effective projection inserts into said effective groove at locations along said longitudinal slit whereat said upper and lower portions of the elongated support contact one another, said effective projection being of a first color proximally and of a second color peripherally.

28. (canceled):

29. (canceled):

30. (canceled):

31. (new claim): A chain saw as in Claim 1, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a fixed element on one of said upper and lower portions of said elongated support and a rotatable element rotatable affixed to the other of said upper and lower portions, said fixed and rotatable elements being functionally positioned with respect to one another such that interaction between said fixed and rotatable elements caused by rotating said rotatable element causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

32. (new claim): A chain saw as in Claim 8, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a fixed element on one of said upper and lower portions of said elongated support and a

rotatable element rotatable affixed to the other of said upper and lower portions, said fixed and rotatable elements being functionally positioned with respect to one another such that interaction between said fixed and rotatable elements caused by rotating said rotatable element causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

33. (new claim): A chain saw as in Claim 11, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a fixed element on one of said upper and lower portions of said elongated support and a rotatable element rotatable affixed to the other of said upper and lower portions, said fixed and rotatable elements being functionally positioned with respect to one another such that interaction between said fixed and rotatable elements caused by rotating said rotatable element causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

34. (new claim): A chain saw as in Claim 19, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a fixed element on one of said upper and lower portions of said elongated support and a rotatable element rotatable affixed to the other of said upper and lower portions, said fixed and rotatable elements being functionally positioned with respect to one another such that interaction between said fixed and rotatable elements caused by rotating said rotatable element causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

35. (new claim): A chain saw as in Claim 27, which further comprises a second lateral slit in said continuous chain channel

guide which can be caused to effect an offset of said continuous chain channel guide thereacross.

36. A chain saw as in Claim 1, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a moveable element placed between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said moveable element being functionally positioned with respect to said upper and lower portions such that motion thereof causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support to change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

37. A chain saw as in Claim 8, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a moveable element placed between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said moveable element being functionally positioned with respect to said upper and lower portions such that motion thereof causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support to change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

38. A chain saw as in Claim 11, in which the control means for applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a moveable element placed between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said moveable element being functionally positioned with respect to said upper and lower portions such that motion thereof causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support to change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

39. A chain saw as in Claim 19, in which the control means for

applying force between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support comprises a moveable element placed between said upper and lower portions of the elongated support, said moveable element being functionally positioned with respect to said upper and lower portions such that motion thereof causes said upper and lower portions of the elongated support to change position with respect to one another at least one location across said longitudinal slit.

40. A chain saw as in Claim 27, which comprises means for controlling offset across said lateral slit.

41. A chain saw as in Claim 1, in which said longitudinal slit comprises an effective projection on one of said upper and lower portions of the elongated support and an effective groove present in the other, said effective projection and effective groove being functionally oriented with respect to one another such that said effective projection inserts into said effective groove at locations along said longitudinal slit whereat said upper and lower portions of the elongated support contact one another, said effective projection being of a first color proximally and of a second color peripherally.

42. A chain saw as in Claim 8, in which said longitudinal slit comprises an effective projection on one of said upper and lower portions of the elongated support and an effective groove present in the other, said effective projection and effective groove being functionally oriented with respect to one another such that said effective projection inserts into said effective groove at locations along said longitudinal slit whereat said upper and lower portions of the elongated support contact one another, said effective projection being of a first color proximally and of a second color peripherally.

43. A chain saw as in Claim 11, in which said longitudinal slit comprises an effective projection on one of said upper and lower portions of the elongated support and an effective groove present in the other, said effective projection and effective groove being functionally oriented with respect to one another such that said effective projection inserts into said effective groove at locations along said longitudinal slit whereat said upper and lower portions of the elongated support contact one another, said effective projection being of a first color proximally and of a second color peripherally.

44. A chain saw as in Claim 19, in which said longitudinal slit comprises an effective projection on one of said upper and lower portions of the elongated support and an effective groove present in the other, said effective projection and effective groove being functionally oriented with respect to one another such that said effective projection inserts into said effective groove at locations along said longitudinal slit whereat said upper and lower portions of the elongated support contact one another, said effective projection being of a first color proximally and of a second color peripherally.

45. A chain saw as in Claim 27, in which the first effective projection first color is green and the second color is red.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Marked-up and Corrected Figs. 1a, 1b, 5c, 5d, Figs. 5e, 5f, 7 and 11 accompany herewith. The Examiner is requested to Approve the changes indicated in red. Please note that Replacement Sheets accompany with this Response.